

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method for shredding a block of material, the apparatus includes at least one cutting blade. A drive unit rotates the cutting blade about an axis, and a feed unit moves the block of material toward the cutting blade. The axis about which the cutting blade is rotated is generally perpendicular to the direction in which the block of material is being fed. In one embodiment, the block of material comprises a plurality of ribbons, the ribbons being stacked atop each other. In one preferred embodiment, the cutting blade comprises a serrated edge, and the distance between the teeth in the serrated edge is less than the thickness of each ribbon. In another embodiment, the shredding unit includes a plurality of blades on a rotatably driven drum.